GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5371
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2008
ROTTEN STOCKS
Singh Shri Prabhunath;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge foodgrains stocks are rotting in Government warehouses and in the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) and are no more fit for human consumption;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor indicating quantity of foodgrains spoiled during each of the last three years and the current year and the manner in which it is proposed to be utilised; and

(c) the details of corrective steps initiated to check recurrence of such wastages?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): However,the quantity of foodgrains accrued in FCI godowns due to damage during storage, transit and natural calamities during each of the last 3 years and the current year is as under:

SI. No.	Year	Quantity of damaged foodgrains (fugures in lakh MTs)
1.	2005	0.92
2.	2006	0.30
3.	2007	0.34
4.	2008 (upto March,2008)	0.15

There are standard guidelines for utilization of damaged foodgrains after categorization of the same into Feed-I, Feed-II, Feed-III, industrial use, manure and dumping depending upon the percentage of sound grains and other factors.

(c): Government has taken following corrective steps to check reoccurrence of such wastages:

(i) Go downs/warehouses are constructed and maintained on scientific lines for proper storage of foodgrains.

(ii) Regular prophylactic and curative treatments of stocks of foodgrains are carried out for the control of insect pests.

(iii) Regular periodic inspection of the stocks by qualified and trained staff is carried out and immediate remedial measures are taken, if shortcomings are observed.

(iv) The foodgrains are stored on elevated plinths using proper dunnage material in Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage.

(v) The stacks are covered with specially fabricated low density polythene covers and tied with nylon ropes.

(vi) Procedure of `First m First Out (FIFO)` is followed so as to avoid the longer storage of the foodgrains.

(vii) Pre-monsoon fumigation of food grain stocks is carried out in godowns and warehouses.